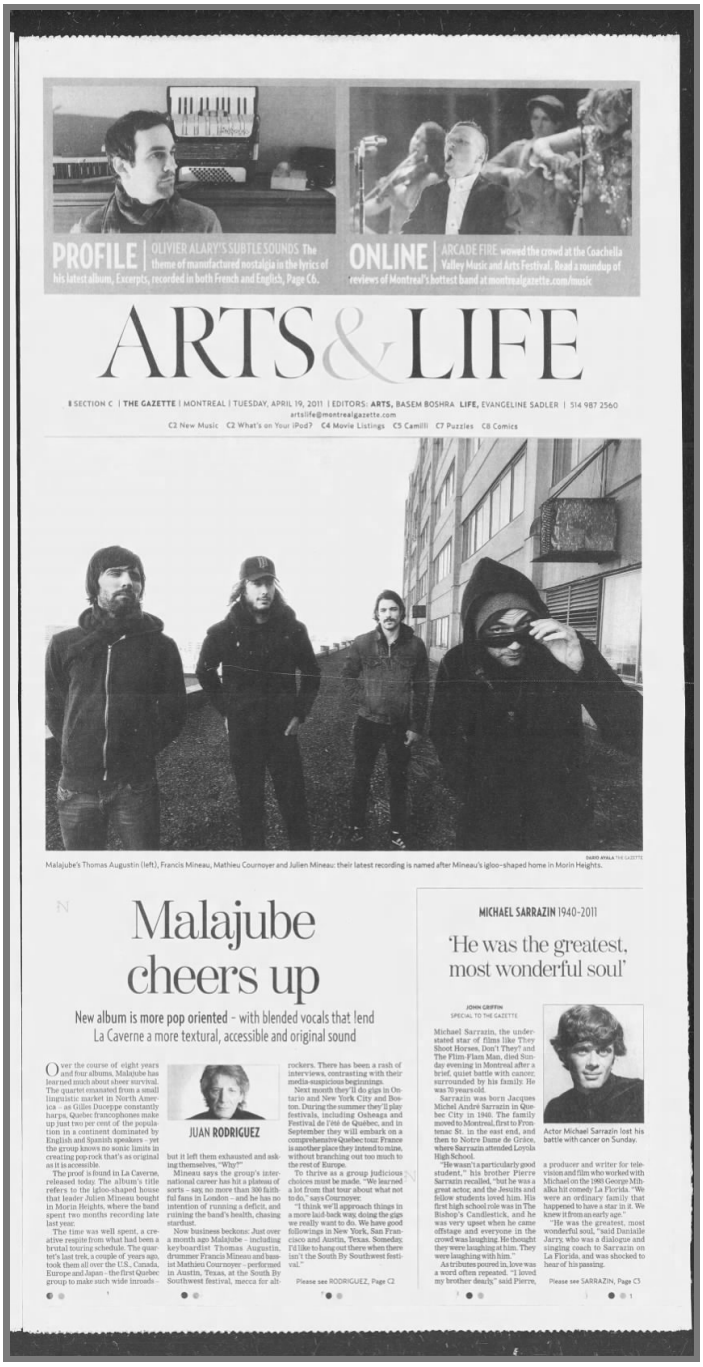
Newspapers by ancestry
https://www.newspapers.com/image/426509075

Downloaded on Mar 29, 2024



PROFILE | OLIVIER ALARY'S SUBTLE SOUNDS The theme of manufactured nostalgia in the lyrics of his latest album, Excerpts, recorded in both French and English, Page C6.

ONLINE | ARCADE FIRE wowed the crowd at the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival. Read a roundup of reviews of Montreal's hottest band at montrealgazette.com/music

ARTS & LIFE

SECTION C | THE GAZETTE | MONTREAL | TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2011 | EDITORS: ARTS, BASEM BOSHRA LIFE, EVANGELINE SADLER | 514 987 2560
artslife@montrealgazette.com

C2 New Music C2 What's on Your iPod? C4 Movie Listings C5 Camilli C7 Puzzles C8 Comics

DARIO AYALA THE GAZETTE

Malajube's Thomas Augustin (left), Francis Mineau, Mathieu Cournoyer and Julien Mineau: their latest recording is named after Mineau's igloo-shaped home in Morin Heights.

Malajube cheers up

New album is more pop oriented – with blended vocals that lend La Caverne a more textural, accessible and original sound

JUAN RODRIGUEZ

Over the course of eight years and four albums, Malajube has learned much about sheer survival. The quartet emanated from a small linguistic pocket in North America – as Gilles Duceppe constantly harps, Quebec francophones make up just two per cent of the population in a continent dominated by English and Spanish speakers – yet the group knows no sonic limits in creating pop-rock that's as original as it is accessible.

The proof is found in La Caverne, released today. The album's title refers to the igloo-shaped house that leader Julien Mineau bought in Morin Heights, where the band spent two months recording late last year.

The time was well spent, a creative respite from what had been a brutal touring schedule. The quartet's last trek, a couple of years ago, took them all over the U.S., Canada, Europe and Japan – the first Quebec group to make such wide inroads – but it left them exhausted and asking themselves, "Why?"

Mineau says the group's international career has hit a plateau of sorts – say, no more than 300 faithful fans in London – and he has no intention of running a deficit, and ruining the band's health, chasing stardust.

Now business beckons: Just over a month ago Malajube – including keyboardist Thomas Augustin, drummer Francis Mineau and bassist Mathieu Cournoyer – performed in Austin, Texas, at the South By Southwest festival, mecca for alt-rockers. There has been a rash of interviews, contrasting with their media-suspicious beginnings.

Next month they'll do gigs in Ontario and New York City and Boston. During the summer they'll play festivals, including Osheaga and Festival de l'été de Québec, and in September they will embark on a comprehensive Quebec tour. France is another place they intend to mine, without branching out too much to the rest of Europe.

To thrive as a group judicious choices must be made. "We learned a lot from that tour about what not to do," says Cournoyer.

"I think we'll approach things in a more laid-back way, doing the gigs we really want to do. We have good followings in New York, San Francisco and Austin, Texas. Someday, I'd like to hang out there when there isn't the South By Southwest festival."

Please see RODRIGUEZ, Page C2

MICHAEL SARRAZIN 1940-2011

'He was the greatest, most wonderful soul'

JOHN GRIFFIN
SPECIAL TO THE GAZETTE

Actor Michael Sarrazin lost his battle with cancer on Sunday.

Michael Sarrazin, the understated star of films like They Shoot Horses, Don't They? and The Flim-Flam Man, died Sunday evening in Montreal after a brief, quiet battle with cancer, surrounded by his family. He was 70 years old.

Sarrazin was born Jacques Michel André Sarrazin in Quebec City in 1940. The family moved to Montreal, first to Frontenac St. in the east end, and then to Notre Dame de Grâce, where Sarrazin attended Loyola High School.

"He wasn't a particularly good student," his brother Pierre Sarrazin recalled, "but he was a great actor, and the Jesuits and fellow students loved him. His first high school role was in The Bishop's Candlestick, and he was very upset when he came offstage and everyone in the crowd was laughing. He thought they were laughing at him. They were laughing with him."

As tributes poured in, love was a word often repeated. "I loved my brother dearly," said Pierre, a producer and writer for television and film who worked with Michael on the 1981 George Mihalka hit comedy La Florida. "We were an ordinary family that happened to have a star in it. We knew it from an early age.

"He was the greatest, most wonderful soul, "said Danielle Jarry, who was a dialogue and singing coach to Sarrazin on La Florida, and was shocked to hear of his passing.

Please see SARRAZIN, Page C3

Copyright © 2024 Newspapers.com. All Rights Reserved.
Powered by Newspapers.com